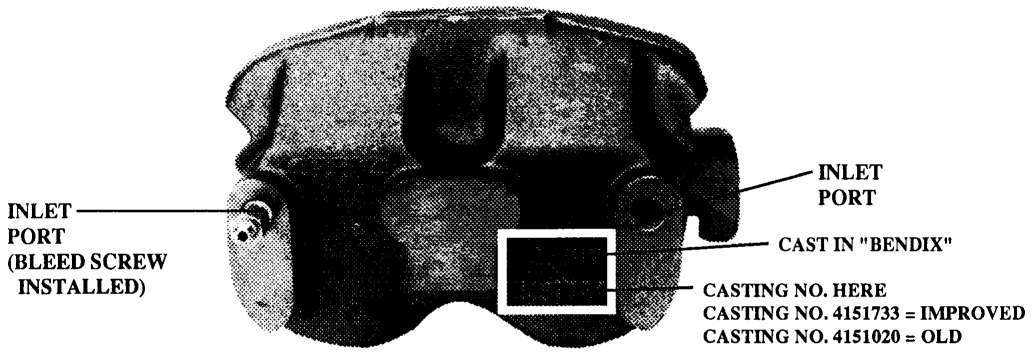
Technical Bulletin

Subject: **New Revision Bendix 2.6" Twin Piston Caliper**

Beginning in vehicle model year 1989, Bendix began supplying an improved design of the 2.6" diameter twin piston caliper assembly. Part number 55245 remains unchanged and is used for both the old and improved 2.6" caliper assembly. Both versions of caliper 55245 are interchangeable as assemblies, however, the detail components are not.

The old and improved versions of caliper assembly 55245 can most easily be identified by checking the casting number on the rear of the caliper head. The casting number appears right below the cast in "BENDIX" as shown.

2.6" TWIN PISTON CALIPER CASTING — (DWG 1)



The casting of the improved caliper is machined differently to accommodate a new boot and a new piston. OLD AND NEW KITS AND PISTONS FOR CALIPER 55245 MAY NOT BE INTERCHANGED.

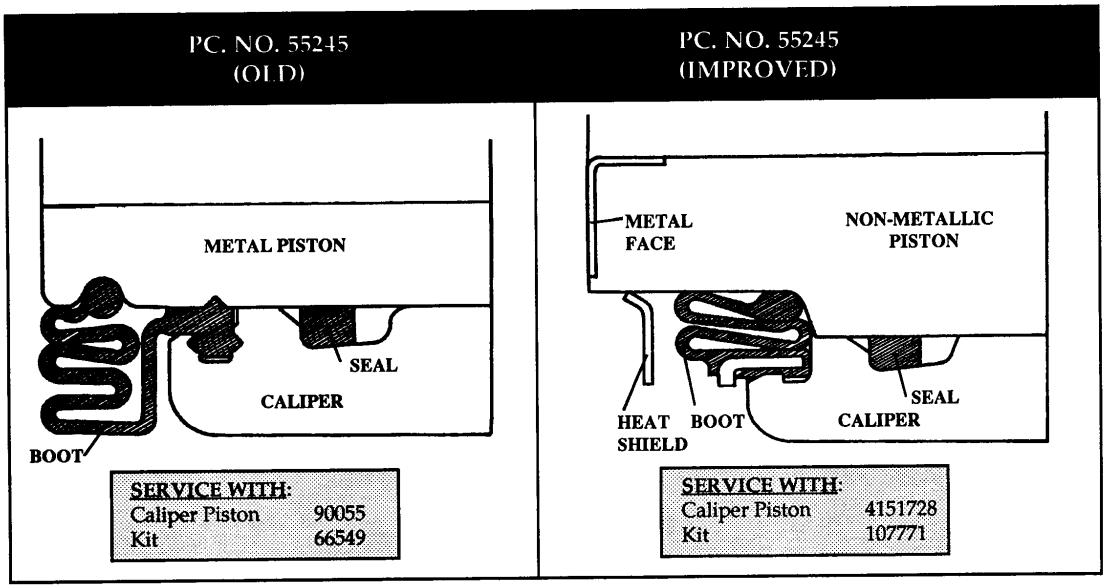
The improvements which affect interchange are:

1. The old style piston (90055) is all steel. The new style piston (4151728) is nonmetallic which incorporates a reinforced "face" to reduce abrasion from the disc pad. The shape of the new piston has been altered to allow the installation of a heat shield (not used on old style piston) and to permit the boot folds to be "stored" partially in the caliper housing. The "storing" feature provides a greater clearance between the boot folds and disc pad, and reduces the chances for heat damage.

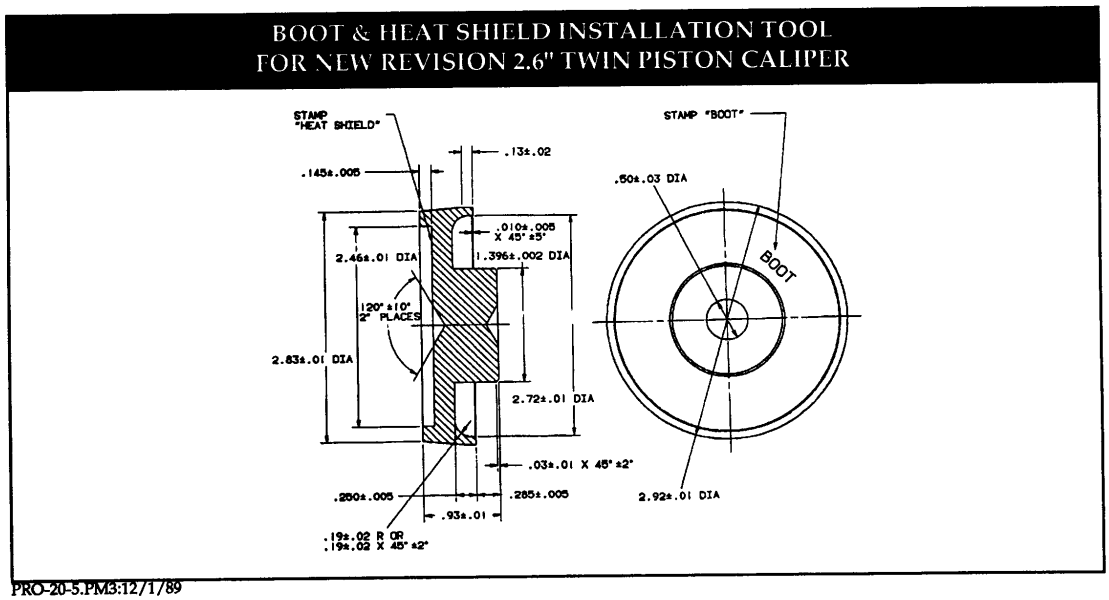
2. The new boot is constructed with a metal insert and must be driven into the new caliper housing in the same manner as an oil or grease seal. This provides a positive seal against water and contaminants. The boot is made of a new material which has a much higher heat resistance.

3. The caliper housing (casting) is machined differently to accept the new boot and carries a different casting number. Casting number 4151020 appears on the OLD revision caliper while 4151733 appears on the NEW IMPROVED.

The new 2.6" caliper assembly can also be identified by noting the configuration of the boot (pressed in, 3 folds), the presence of a heat shield and the nonmetallic piston with its metal "face" (the old style piston is all steel). Both the old and new calipers can be repaired using different kits. Old style calipers use repair kit 66549 and piston 90055. The new caliper uses repair kit 107771 and piston 4151728.



It is recommended that a boot driving tool be used to install the "drive-in" boot in the new caliper. This tool may be ordered directly from the Kent-Moore Company, Heavy Duty Division, 1-800-328-6657 in the U.S. or 1-800-345-2233 in Canada using Kent-Moore Part Number SE-4046. Alternatively, the tool can be made using the illustration in this bulletin.



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Bendix